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11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
12 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

13 STRIKE 3 HOLDINGS, LLC,
14 vs.
15 JOHN DOE subscriber assigned IP
16 address 98.147.178.21,
17 Defendant.

18 Case Number: 2:25-cv-01884-TJH-SP
19 **FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT**
20 **FOR COPYRIGHT**
21 **INFRINGEMENT - DEMAND FOR**
22 **JURY TRIAL**
23 **[REDACTED VERSION]**

24 Plaintiff, Strike 3 Holdings, LLC (“Strike 3” or “Plaintiff”), brings this First
25 Amended Complaint against Defendant, John Doe subscriber assigned IP address
26 98.147.178.21 a/k/a [REDACTED] (“Defendant”) a/k/a “[REDACTED]”, and
alleges as follows:

27 **Introduction**

28 1. This is a case about the ongoing and wholesale copyright
infringement of Plaintiff’s motion pictures by Defendant.

29 2. Plaintiff is the owner of award-winning, critically acclaimed adult
motion pictures.

30 3. Strike 3’s motion pictures are distributed through the *Blacked*,
Blacked Raw, *MILFY*, *Slayed*, *Tushy*, *Tushy Raw*, *Vixen* and *Wifey* adult websites

1 and DVDs. With millions of unique visitors to its websites each month, the
2 brands are famous for redefining adult content, creating high-end, artistic, and
3 performer-inspiring motion pictures produced with a Hollywood style budget and
4 quality.

5 4. Defendant is, in a word, stealing these works on a grand scale. Using
6 the BitTorrent protocol, Defendant is committing rampant and wholesale
7 copyright infringement by downloading Strike 3's motion pictures as well as
8 distributing them to others. Defendant did not infringe just one or two of Strike
9 3's motion pictures, but has been recorded infringing 65 movies over an extended
10 period of time.

11 5. Although Defendant attempted to hide this theft by infringing
12 Plaintiff's content anonymously, this court's order permitted Plaintiff to serve a
13 subpoena on Defendant's Internet Service Provider ("ISP"), Spectrum, to discover
14 the identity of the subscriber assigned IP address 98.147.178.21, the IP address
15 Defendant used to download and share Plaintiff's works.

16 6. Based on Plaintiff's investigation of the subscriber and publicly
17 available resources, Plaintiff identified Defendant as the true infringer.

18 7. This is a civil action seeking damages under the United States
19 Copyright Act of 1976, *as amended*, 17 U.S.C. §§ 101 et seq. (the “Copyright
20 Act”).

Jurisdiction and Venue

22 8. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to
23 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question); and 28 U.S.C. § 1338 (jurisdiction over
24 copyright actions).

25 9. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because
26 Defendant used an Internet Protocol address (“IP address”) traced to a physical
27 address located within this District to commit copyright infringement. Therefore:
28 (i) Defendant committed the tortious conduct alleged in this First Amended

1 Complaint in this State; (ii) Defendant resides in this State and/or; (iii) Defendant
2 has engaged in substantial – and not isolated – business activity in this State.

3 10. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331(b) and (c), venue is proper in this
4 district because: (i) a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the
5 claims occurred in this District; and, (ii) the Defendant resides (and therefore can
6 be found) in this District and resides in this State. Additionally, venue is proper in
7 this District pursuant 28 U.S.C. § 1400(a) (venue for copyright cases) because
8 Defendant or Defendant's agent resides or may be found in this District.

9 **Parties**

10 11. Plaintiff, Strike 3 is a Delaware limited liability company located at
11 2140 S. Dupont Hwy, Camden, DE.

12 12. Defendant, [REDACTED], is an individual currently residing at
13 [REDACTED].

14 **Factual Background**

15 ***Plaintiff's Award-Winning Copyrights***

16 13. Strike 3's subscription-based websites proudly boast a paid
17 subscriber base that is one of the highest of any adult-content sites in the world.
18 Strike 3 also licenses its motion pictures to popular broadcasters and Strike 3's
19 motion pictures are some of the highest selling adult DVDs in the United States.

20 14. Strike 3's motion pictures and websites have won numerous awards,
21 such as "best cinematography," "best new studio," and "adult site of the year."

22 15. Strike 3's motion pictures have had positive global impact, leading
23 more adult studios to invest in better content, higher pay for performers, and to
24 treat each performer with respect and like an artist.

25 16. Unfortunately, Strike 3, like a large number of other makers of
26 motion picture and television works, has a major problem with Internet piracy.
27 Often appearing among the most infringed popular entertainment content on
28 torrent websites, Strike 3's motion pictures are among the most pirated content in

1 the world.

2 ***Defendant Used the BitTorrent File Distribution Network***

3 ***to Infringe Plaintiff's Copyrights***

4 17. BitTorrent is a system designed to quickly distribute large files over
5 the Internet. Instead of downloading a file, such as a movie, from a single source,
6 BitTorrent users are able to connect to the computers of other BitTorrent users in
7 order to simultaneously download and upload pieces of the file from and to other
8 users.

9 18. BitTorrent's popularity stems from the ability of users to directly
10 interact with each other to distribute a large file without creating a heavy load on
11 any individual source computer and/or network. It enables Plaintiff's motion
12 pictures, which are often filmed in state of the art 4kHD, to be transferred quickly
13 and efficiently.

14 19. To share a movie within the BitTorrent network, a user first uses
15 BitTorrent software to create a .torrent file from the original digital media file.
16 This process breaks the original digital media file down into numerous pieces.

17 20. The entire movie file being shared has a hash value (*i.e.*, the "File
18 Hash"). A hash value is an alpha-numeric value of a fixed length that uniquely
19 identifies data.

20 21. Hash values are not arbitrarily assigned to data merely for
21 identification purposes, but rather are the product of a cryptographic algorithm
22 applied to the data itself. As such, while two identical sets of data will produce
23 the same cryptographic hash value, any change to the underlying data – no matter
24 how small – will change the cryptographic hash value that correlates to it.

25 22. To find and re-assemble the pieces of the digital media file, *i.e.*, to
26 download the file using BitTorrent, a user must obtain the .torrent file for the
27 specific file that has been broken down into pieces.

28 23. Each .torrent file contains important metadata with respect to the

1 pieces of the file. When this data is put into the cryptographic algorithm, it results
2 in a hash value called the “Info Hash.”

3 24. The “Info Hash” is the data that the BitTorrent protocol uses to
4 identify and locate the other pieces of the desired file (in this case, the desired file
5 is the respective file for the infringing motion pictures that are the subject of this
6 action) across the BitTorrent network.

7 25. Using the Info Hash in the metadata of a .torrent file, a user may
8 collect all the pieces of the digital media file that correlates with the specific
9 .torrent file.

10 26. Once a user downloads all of the pieces of that digital media file from
11 other BitTorrent users, the digital media file is automatically reassembled into its
12 original form, ready for playing.

13 27. Plaintiff has developed, owns, and operates infringement detection
14 systems named “VXN Scan” and the “Cross Reference Tool”. Each infringement
15 detection system identifies infringement in two distinct ways.

16 28. The Cross Reference Tool first searched for and obtained .torrent
17 files claiming to be infringing copies of Plaintiff’s works, and then VXN Scan
18 downloaded complete copies of the digital media files that correlate to those
19 .torrent files.

20 29. Plaintiff then compared the completed digital media files to
21 Plaintiff’s copyrighted works to determine whether they are infringing copies of
22 one of Plaintiff’s copyrighted works.

23 30. The digital media files have been verified to contain a digital copy of
24 a motion picture that is identical (or, alternatively, strikingly similar or
25 substantially similar) to Plaintiff’s corresponding original copyrighted Works.

26 31. VXN Scan used the “Info Hash” value, contained within the metadata
27 of the .torrent file which correlated with a digital media file that was determined
28 to be identical (or substantially similar) to a copyrighted work, to download a

1 piece (or pieces) of multiple digital media files from Defendant using the
2 BitTorrent network.

3 32. VNX Scan only downloads pieces of digital media files from
4 Plaintiff's copyrighted works. At no point did VNX Scan upload content to any
5 BitTorrent user. Indeed, it is incapable of doing so.

6 33. While Defendant was using the BitTorrent file distribution network,
7 VNX Scan established multiple direct TCP/IP connections with Defendant's IP
8 address.

9 34. Plaintiff identified these pieces as portions of infringing copies of
10 Strike 3's motion pictures.

11 35. VNX Scan detected, captured and documented Defendant
12 transmitting pieces of Plaintiff's copyrighted motion pictures and recorded those
13 transactions in a Packet Capture ("PCAP") file.

14 36. Plaintiff also recorded infringement using its Cross Reference Tool.

15 37. The Cross Reference Tool is designed on the basis of a distributed
16 hash table ("DHT") and is a class of decentralized distributed systems that
17 provides an identification service similar to a hash table: (key, value) pairs are
18 stored in a DHT, and any participating node can efficiently retrieve the value
19 associated with a given key.

20 38. BitTorrent clients use a DHT to locate peers who are participating in
21 the distribution of the digital media files related to the Info Hash. Specifically, a
22 BitTorrent client locates and connects to the DHT network. That way it registers
23 its own IP address while requesting IP addresses of other peers, which are
24 distributing the same .torrent file.

25 39. Using this process BitTorrent users are able to locate and connect to a
26 number of peers within a particular swarm, and download the data related to each
27 .torrent file.

28 40. A BitTorrent client registers the IP address of the user into the DHT

1 with the purpose of participating in the distribution of constituent pieces of the
2 relevant digital media file.

3 41. The Cross Reference Tool uses servers that locate .torrent files and
4 their related Info Hashes. The servers subsequently download the torrent
5 information from popular torrent websites. The Cross Reference Tool is incapable
6 of downloading any digital media file associated with an Info Hash, and it has
7 only the ability to download torrent file metadata.

8 42. Similar to BitTorrent clients, the Cross Reference Tool uses a DHT
9 to obtain the IP Addresses of peers registered to each .torrent file listed in the
10 DHT.

11 43. The Cross Reference Tool detected and documented that Defendant
12 used the BitTorrent File Distribution Network with the purpose of distributing
13 digital media files that have been determined to be identical (or substantially
14 similar) to Plaintiff's copyrighted motion pictures. At no point did the Cross
15 Reference Tool upload content to any BitTorrent user. Indeed, it is incapable of
16 doing so.

17 44. Both VZN Scan and the Cross Reference Tool independently
18 recorded multiple infringements in the manner described above. Collectively,
19 Plaintiff's proprietary software detected 65 number of infringements.

20 45. Each work infringed by Defendant is listed on Exhibit A and sets
21 forth the Universal Time Coordinated (UTC) time and date of each infringement,
22 along with the Info Hash value obtained from the metadata of the corresponding
23 .torrent file.

24 46. Exhibit A also sets forth relevant copyright information for each
25 work at issue: the date of publication, the date of registration, and the work's
26 copyright registration number. In a showing of good faith, Plaintiff has
27 intentionally omitted the title of the work from this public filing due to the adult
28 nature of its content, but can provide a version of Exhibit A containing the works'

1 titles to the Court or any party upon request.

2 47. Thus, Defendant downloaded, copied, and distributed Plaintiff's
3 Works without authorization.

4 48. Defendant's infringement was continuous and ongoing.

5 49. Plaintiff owns the copyrights to the Works and the Works have been
6 registered with the United States Copyright Office.

7 50. Plaintiff seeks statutory damages, attorneys' fees, and costs under
8 17 U.S.C. § 501 of the United States Copyright Act.

9 **Discovery Will Show that Defendant is the Individual
10 Who Infringed Plaintiff's Copyrighted Works**

11 51. Plaintiff's investigation has determined that Defendant is the person
12 who used IP address 98.147.178.21 to infringe on its copyrighted works.

13 52. Plaintiff utilized the Maxmind geolocation service to determine the
14 ISP that assigned IP address 98.147.178.21 (to determine the correct ISP to whom
15 a subpoena can be sent) and the geographic location of the subscriber of that IP
16 address (to determine the proper venue in which to file an action).

17 53. Maxmind reported that IP address 98.147.178.21 was assigned by
18 Spectrum ("ISP") to a subscriber approximately located in South Pasadena,
19 California.

20 54. After the Court granted Plaintiff's request to conduct limited
21 expedited discovery, Plaintiff served the court-authorized subpoena on the ISP on
22 or about March 31, 2025.

23 55. Upon information and belief, the ISP subsequently provided notice of
24 the subpoena (and this lawsuit) to the subscriber, in compliance with the Cable
25 Communications Policy Act of 1984 ("CCPA"), 47 U.S.C. § 551 et seq.

26 56. The ISP responded to the subpoena and identified Defendant as the
27 subscriber assigned the relevant IP address during at least one date of
28 infringement and provided Defendant's address identified in paragraph 12.

1 57. The address identified in paragraph 12 is a single-family home.

2 58. After receiving the ISP's response to the subpoena, Plaintiff reviewed
3 publicly available information for Defendant who, upon information and belief,
4 resided in the residence (and therefore had sufficient access to the IP address
5 during the period of infringement).

6 59. Defendant lived at the residence identified in paragraph 12 above
7 during the period of infringement.

8 60. Upon information and belief, the only other occupant(s) of the
9 residence identified in paragraph 12 above during the period of infringement were
10 Defendant's wife and parent.

11 61. Plaintiff also logged BitTorrent network activity emanating from IP
12 address 98.147.178.21 involving works other than Plaintiff's 65 copyrighted
13 works during the period of infringement. Collectively, this evidence is referred to
14 as the "Additional Evidence."

15 62. Plaintiff's Additional Evidence indicates that IP address
16 98.147.178.21 was used to download and distribute files relating to other adult
17 movies and mainstream media (i.e., movies, music, books, software, TV shows,
18 and other works) using the BitTorrent protocol during the period of infringement.

19 63. The consistent and prolonged history of BitTorrent activity indicates
20 that the infringer is unlikely to be a houseguest or infrequent visitor.

21 64. Publicly available records indicate strong matches between the
22 BitTorrent activity identified in Plaintiff's Additional Evidence and Defendant.

23 65. [REDACTED].

24 66. [REDACTED].

25 67. [REDACTED]:

26 a. [REDACTED];

27 b. [REDACTED];

28 c. [REDACTED];

- 1 d. [REDACTED];
- 2 e. [REDACTED];
- 3 f. [REDACTED];
- 4 g. [REDACTED];
- 5 h. [REDACTED];
- 6 i. [REDACTED];
- 7 j. [REDACTED];
- 8 k. [REDACTED];
- 9 l. [REDACTED];
- 10 m. [REDACTED];
- 11 n. [REDACTED];
- 12 o. [REDACTED];
- 13 p. [REDACTED];
- 14 q. [REDACTED];
- 15 r. [REDACTED];
- 16 s. [REDACTED];
- 17 t. [REDACTED];
- 18 u. [REDACTED];
- 19 v. [REDACTED];
- 20 w. [REDACTED];
- 21 x. [REDACTED];
- 22 y. [REDACTED];
- 23 z. [REDACTED];
- 24 aa. [REDACTED]; and
- 25 bb. [REDACTED].

26 68. [REDACTED].

COUNT I

Direct Copyright Infringement

69. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1-68 are hereby re-alleged as if fully set forth herein.

70. Plaintiff is the owner of the Works, which is an original work of authorship.

71. Defendant copied and distributed the constituent elements of Plaintiff's Works using the BitTorrent protocol.

72. At no point in time did Plaintiff authorize, permit or consent to Defendant's distribution of its Works, expressly or otherwise.

73. As a result of the foregoing, Defendant violated Plaintiff's exclusive right to:

(A) Reproduce its Works in copies, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(1) and 501;

(B) Distribute copies of the Works to the public by sale or other transfer of ownership, or by rental, lease or lending, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(3) and 501;

(C) Perform the copyrighted Works, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(4) and 501, by showing the Works' images in any sequence and/or by making the sounds accompanying the Works' audible and transmitting said performance of the work, by means of a device or process, to members of the public capable of receiving the display (as set forth in 17 U.S.C. § 101's definitions of "perform" and "publicly" perform); and

(D) Display the copyrighted Works, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(5) and 501, by showing individual images of the works non-sequentially and transmitting said display of the works by means of a device or process to members of the public capable of receiving the display (as set forth in 17 U.S.C. § 101's definition of "publicly" display).

74. Defendant's infringements were committed "willfully" within the meaning of 17 U.S.C. § 504(c)(2).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court:

(A) Permanently enjoin Defendant from continuing to infringe Plaintiff's copyrighted Works;

(B) Order that Defendant delete and permanently remove the digital media files relating to Plaintiff's Works from each of the computers under Defendant's possession, custody or control;

(C) Order that Defendant delete and permanently remove the infringing copies of the Works Defendant has on computers under Defendant's possession, custody or control;

(D) Award Plaintiff statutory damages per infringed work pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504(a) and (c);

(E) Award Plaintiff its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505; and

(F) Grant Plaintiff any other and further relief this Court deems just and proper.

DATED this 2nd day of July, 2025.

Law Offices of Lincoln Bandlow, PC

s/ Lincoln D. Bandlow
Lincoln D. Bandlow
Attorney for Plaintiff
Strike3 Holdings, LLC

DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

DATED this 2nd day of July, 2025.

Law Offices of Lincoln Bandlow, PC

s/ Lincoln D. Bandlow
Lincoln D. Bandlow
Attorney for Plaintiff
Strike3 Holdings, LLC